

## 2015-J4123

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Mary Elizabeth Olga Fraser upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this great Empire State to recognize those individuals who have made a lasting impression on their communities, and whose lives have been filled with many remarkable experiences and with many individuals who love and respect them; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to hereby congratulate Mary Elizabeth Olga Fraser upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; and

WHEREAS, Mary Elizabeth Olga Swan was born on March 13, 1916, in the village of Stewartville, Leonora, West Coast Demerara, in the Colony of British Guiana; and

WHEREAS, Mary Elizabeth Olga Fraser, known to friends as Olga, was the last of four sisters; she attended the Stewartville Congregational Primary School under the British system where primary education was the hallmark of one's future; and

WHEREAS, In her early years, Olga Fraser started working at the Leonora Sugar Estate; she later traveled to the north western region of Guiana with one of her sisters and worked as a Culinary Artist at Matthews Ridge Reynolds Manganese Company; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, with her zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Olga Fraser was blessed with seven wonderful children, David, Gloria, Ronald, Verona, Brenda, Elsa and the late Rupert; today, she is the proud grandmother of 20 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished woman has experienced the incredible joys

and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, This beloved woman has enriched the lives of those around her through her joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, Searching for the American Dream, Olga Fraser along with other Caribbean families, immigrated to the United States where she began working in the Homecare Market; she quickly adapted to the American life style and worked as a Healthcare Aide and Culinary Artist; and

WHEREAS, When Olga Fraser entered the United States, her British Birth Certificate, embossed in calligraphy, was misread and the date of her birth on her American Birth Certificate reads March 30, 1916; she marvels and enjoys celebrating both birthdays; and

WHEREAS, During her full and accomplished life, Olga Fraser dedicated countless hours to her exceptional culinary skills which have been passed on to her children; in addition, her special dishes were memorable treats at many family gatherings; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Olga Fraser resides in Brooklyn, New York, with her devoted daughters; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable woman has witnessed countless events, innovations and achievements in this country, while personally contributing to the progression and excellence of this great Empire State and forever enriching the lives of those around her; and

WHEREAS, Olga Fraser, who is described by her family and friends as an extremely loving, caring and hard-working person, has made a difference in countless lives; she has credited her longevity to a strong religious upbringing, healthy eating habits and strong family genes; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to hereby honor and recognize Mary Elizabeth Olga Fraser for a lifetime of accomplishments, upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday;

and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mary Elizabeth Olga Fraser.